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SECURITY INFORMATION

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25X1

Army Uniforms

1. [redacted] the following items of clothing and equipment upon induction into the Czech Army in April 1949:

(a) Individual clothing

- | | |
|------|---|
| 1 | Cotton khaki dress uniform |
| 1 | Cotton khaki service uniform |
| 3 | Cotton khaki shirts |
| 2 | Cotton khaki ties |
| 2 pr | Green cotton socks |
| 1 pr | Brown leather service shoes |
| 1 pr | Brown leather dress shoes (low quarter) |
| 1 | Wool garrison cap |
| 1 | Leather belt |
| 2 pr | Long winter cotton drawers |
| 2 pr | Short summer cotton drawers |
| 1 | Emblem for garrison cap |

[] never issued an undershirt, either in the Army, PS, or SNB, and no one in the Czech military service wore undershirts.

(b) Organizational Equipment

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--------------------------|
| 2 | bed sheets (exchanged every 10 to 14 days) | 1 | gas mask |
| 1 | pillow case (exchanged every 10 to 14 days) | 1 | intrenching shovel |
| 2 | woolen blankets | | <u>[See Enclosure D]</u> |
| 1 | mattress | | |
| 1 | pillow | | |

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

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SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

-2-

- 2 leather ammunition pouches /See Enclosure D/
- 1 Czech bayonet, about 30 cm long
- 1 rucksack (field pack)
- 1 mess kit (two plates, cup, and knife, fork and spoon unit)
- 1 7.92 mm, 1938 model, Zbrojovka rifle 25X1
- 1 aluminum water canteen with felt cover /See Enclosure D/ 25X1

2. Upon transfer from the Army to the SNB on 16 Oct 49, [] 25X1
 retain only the clothes [] wearing (dress uniform, shoes, shirt, 25X1
 tie, underwear, socks and belt) and turned in all other items. []
 [] the length of time between one issue and another, []
 familiar with the salvage system.

SNB Uniforms

3. The uniform was of khaki cloth, a mixture of wool and cotton. A cotton khaki shirt and a khaki tie were worn with the uniform. The service cap worn by members of the SNB was khaki with a red hat band to which a Czech lion emblem was affixed. Until 1 Jan 51, the shoulderboards were red and the five-pointed stars on them were quite large. Since then the color of the shoulderboards has been blue with a narrow white border and small silver five-pointed stars. []
 but exchanged the army shoulderboards for those of the SNB. The following were items issued [] in October 1949 upon [] transfer 25X1
 the SNB.

(a) Individual clothing

- 1 Whipcord, custom tailored dress uniform
- 1 Blue-gray rubberized raincoat
- 3 Cotton khaki shirts
- 2 Cotton khaki ties
- 1 or Brown-leather dress shoes (low quarter)
- 2 pr
- 1 pr Knee-length rubber boots (issued only to personnel on border patrol)
- 1 pr Knee-length felt boots (issued only to personnel on border patrol)
- 1 Garrison cap
- 1 Service cap
- 2 to Green cotton socks
- 4 pr
- 1 pr Leather gloves
- 2 pr Long winter cotton drawers
- 2 pr Short summer cotton drawers

(b) Organizational equipment

- 2 bedsheets (exchanged every 10-14 days)
- 1 pillow case (exchanged every 10-14 days)
- 2 woolen blankets
- 1 mattress
- 1 pillow
- 1 Sam Browne leather belt
- 1 leather pistol holster
- 1 leather ammunition pouch
- 1 first aid pack - containing bandages, adhesive tape, iodine
- 1 flashlight
- 1 Rucksack (field pack)
- 1 pr handcuffs
- 1 pistol (German 9 mm Parabola)
- 1 SMG (Model 25)
- 2 T/34 grenades

SECRET

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

-3-

25X1

4.

PS Uniforms

5. All officers' uniforms were custom-tailored. [redacted] all issued items were expected to last at least three years, with the exception of underwear, which was issued every six months. [redacted]

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issue of the following clothing and equipment:

(a) Individual clothing

- 1 Woolen parade and dress overcoat
- 1 Woolen service overcoat
- 1 Whipcord dress uniform (blouse and trousers)
- 1 Cotton service uniform (blouse and trousers)
- 1 Cotton field uniform (blouse and trousers)
- 1 pr Whipcord dress breeches
- 1 pr Cotton service and field breeches
- 1 Yellow or green oilskin raincoat
- 1 pr Brown leather service and field shoes
- 1 pr Brown leather dress shoes (low quarter)
- 1 pr Rubber field boots (hip-length)
- 1 pr Felt field boots (valenki)
- 1 Service cap
- 1 Garrison cap
- 2 Green cotton shirts
- 2 Green cotton ties
- 1 pr Long winter cotton drawers
- 1 pr Short summer cotton drawers
- 8 pr Green cotton socks
- 1 Green woolen scarf
- 6 sets Wolfhound-head insignia /See Enclosure C/
- 5 sets Shoulderboards for all issued overcoats and uniforms

(b) Organizational equipment

- 2 bedsheets (exchanged every 10-14 days)
- 1 pillow case (exchanged every 10-14 days)
- 4 woolen blankets
- 1 mattress
- 1 pillow
- 1 Sam Browne belt (Not issued to PS career NCOs)
- 1 brown leather pistol holster
- 1 pistol 7.65 mm, model 1950, Cezka Zbrojovka
- 1 SMG model 23 with two leather ammunition pouches
- 4-6 tent pegs
- 1 canteen with felt cover (same as army issue)
- 1 first aid pack with packet (same as SNB issue)
- 1 set of mess gear (same as army issue)

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6.

7. As noted [redacted] there were three different uniforms /See Enclosure C/:

- (a) Whipcord parade and dress uniform
- (b) Cotton service uniform
- (c) Cotton field uniform

SECRET

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

-4-

The dress uniform had shiny buttons and stars, and the service uniform had dull buttons and stars. The field uniform had sewed-in pockets without pleats.

8. [redacted] pvt and drafted (short term) NCOs in the PS received the same issue as their equivalents in the Army. Career NCOs in the PS and in the Army were given the same issued as officers, except for shoulderboards. Blouses issued to officers and career NCOs had outside pockets with pleats on the breast; the flap was buttoned by a gold button. /See Enclosure C/ Blouses issued to drafted pvt and NCOs had no pleats on the outside breast pockets. The flap buttoned with dull brown-bronze colored metal buttons. In the PS, officers and career NCOs wore insignia of gold colored wolfhound heads. /See Enclosure C/, whereas drafted pvt and NCOs had the same insignia but of a dull brown-bronze colored metal.

9. The service cap was worn with the dress and service uniform by officers and career NCOs. /Also see paragraph 12, this report./ The garrison cap /See Enclosure C/ was worn with the field uniform by officers and career NCOs and had a gold colored emblem /See Enclosure C, item F/. Pvt and drafted NCOs wore only the garrison cap which was the same color as that worn by officers and career NCOs although it had an emblem of dull brown-bronze colored metal.

STB Uniforms

10. STB personnel usually wore civilian clothing. STB personnel working in offices, however or those dealing directly with the public wore uniforms. The only difference between the SNB and STB uniforms was the color of the shoulderboards /See paragraph 15 below/

JASAN, HRAD and JERAB Uniforms

25X1

11. Personnel of the JASAN, HRAD and JERAB¹ wore uniforms which were identical to uniforms worn by STB personnel. It was impossible [redacted] to distinguish JASAN, HRAD, or JERAB personnel from STB personnel. Many members of the organizations mentioned above wore civilian clothes.

Changes in Uniform

12. The star insignia /See Enclosure A-1/ which replaced the former Czech cocarde, was worn on the garrison cap /See Enclosure A/. It was first introduced into the CSR in May 1952 during a parade in Prague and has been worn since then by officers and EM of the PS and by Army officers. The star was dark red in the center, and lighter red near the points. The Czech lion was superimposed on the star. While the general design of the star was the same for both officers, and EM, the Czech lion and the border of the star, on officers' and career NCO's caps, were silver metal, whereas they were a dull gray on the caps of drafted EM's. [redacted] all members of the PS would be wearing it by the end of 1952. /Enclosure A-1 shows the new garrison cap which was replacing the cap./ The new garrison cap was only for members of the PS; the design for officers and EM was exactly the same. However, the buttons on the officers' cap and career NCO's cap were silver colored metal and those for drafted EM, were of a dull gray colored metal. The buttons, with crossed sabers, were the same as those worn on shoulderboards and uniforms. /See Enclosure C, items E and F/ [redacted] the new star emblem was to be worn by PS and army personnel with the field-uniform as well as the dress-uniform.

SECRET

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1

-5-

13. In 1952 PS officers were to receive a completely new dress and parade uniform, different from that of the Czech Army, but somewhat similar to that worn by members of the Soviet MVD. The uniform was to consist of a khaki coat for winter and a white coat for summer, the latter to be worn with blue trousers or breeches that had a three mm wide red stripe running along the outside seam. PS generals were to wear wider stripes on their trousers. However, officers were to be permitted to wear their old uniforms for field and service wear until they were worn out. EM [redacted]

[redacted] were to retain the old army uniforms until worn out, but were to receive the new caps.

Army and PS Shoulderboards

14. Although career NCOs in the Czech Army and PS wore officer uniforms, they still wore EM shoulderboards. Career NCO shoulderboard stripes were different from those of drafted NCOs. In both the Army and the PS, career NCOs in the combat arms (artillery, armor, infantry and air force) had gold stripes on their shoulderboards. [redacted] the color of the stripes worn by career NCOs in the Corps of Engineers and the Signal Corps. [redacted] the Signal Corps and Corps of Engineers were also considered combat branches. Career NCOs in the service branches (Medical Corps, Transportation Corps, etc) had white stripes on their shoulderboards. Drafted NCOs had stripes on their shoulderboards corresponding to the color of their branch of service.
15. All officers serving in the combat arms in the Army, PS, STB and SNB, including staff and supply officers, wore gold shoulderboards with silver stars on both the dress and service uniforms. Officers serving in the service branches of the Army, PS, STB and SNB, wore silver shoulderboards with gold stars on both the dress and service uniforms. The shoulderboards on the field uniforms worn by all officers in the combat and service branches of the Army and PS were khaki color with stripes and borders corresponding to the color of their branch of service and stars of a dull gray metal. STB and SNB personnel did not wear field uniforms. Officers in the Czech Army wore their branch insignia on their shoulderboards. NCOs and pvts did not wear branch of service insignia on their shoulderboards, but their branch of service could partially be determined by the color of the stripes on their shoulderboards. (A black base with a red border was worn by several branches, eg, Artillery, Armored and AAA). EM in the Legal Department were an exception to this general rule. They wore their branch of service insignia on the shoulderboard between the button and stripes denoting rank.

SNB and STB Shoulderboards

16. Since 1 Jan 51, SNB personnel have worn blue shoulderboards with a narrow white border and small five-pointed silver stars. A Mladsi Strazmister (Junior Patrolman) wore one star, a Strazmister (Patrolman) two stars, a Statni Strazmister (Staff Patrolman) three stars and a Vrchni Strazmister (Chief Patrolman) four stars. [See Enclosure B]
17. SNB officers in the combat arms wore shoulderboards with a gold base, silver stars and a blue border, in addition to one blue longitudinal stripe for company grade ranks and two blue longitudinal stripes for field grade ranks. The stars were five-pointed, and those worn by field grade officers were larger than those worn by company grade officers. Officers in the QM, Medical Corps, and service branches wore shoulderboards with a silver base, gold stars, a blue border, and blue stripes. The highest SNB rank was that of Brigadier General, which had one very large silver star (larger than the stars on the shoulderboards of field grade officers) on a gold shoulderboard with a blue border.

SECRET

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

-6-

18. Neither SNB or STB personnel wore collar tabs as did the PS and army personnel. STB ranks were the same as the SNB (Mladsi Strazmister to Brigadier, the highest STB rank). However, STB EM wore red shoulderboards and STB officers wore shoulderboards with red borders and stripes.

JERAB, JASAN, HRAD

19. Shoulderboards for these units were the same as those worn by STB personnel.

General

20. All EM had to turn in their uniforms when they were demobilized. There was no difference between summer and winter uniforms. In cold weather, troops wore overcoats over their uniforms.
21. Czech civilians did not wear articles that were a part of a military uniform. However, some Czech civilians wearing US Eisenhower jackets and British 1939-45 style uniform jackets. Since May 1952 officers and career NCOs have worn white shirts with brown ties, while drafted EM continued to wear khaki shirts with khaki ties.

Decorations /See Enclosure C/

22. Decorations were worn only on the blouses of the dress and service uniforms, and not on the field uniforms or overcoats. The actual medals were worn only in parades. No insignia, patches or stripes were worn on the sleeves. the following decorations, badges and insignia:

- (a) Partisans' insignia. This is a dull five-pointed silver star showing a partisan with the inscription "Partisanski odznak" (partisan emblem). This emblem was worn by men who participated in resistance movements or underground work against the Germans from 1939 to 1945. was worn on the right side of the blouse, above the pocket.
- (b) Military Academy emblem. This silver-gray emblem was worn by field grade officers who attended a military academy (either Czech or Soviet). It was worn on the right side, on the lower part of the pocket.
- (c) Tyrsov Odznak Zdatnosti (Tyr's Physical Ability emblem). The bronze colored emblem was given to outstanding athletes and sportsmen in honor of Tyr, the founder of the Sokol Athletic Association. It was worn by officers and EM on the lower part of the left pocket.
- (d) Fucikuv Odznak (Fucik emblem). This emblem has a white center with a face and a bronze colored border. It was given to officers and EM who attended political schools, passed a difficult political test, and were outstanding political workers. The emblem was worn on the lower part of the left pocket or under the left pocket.
- (e) Medal of 25 February 1948. This red medal with a white star was worn only by officers and career NCOs who participated in the coup d'etat of 25 Feb. 48.
- (f) Ribbons. the various types of ribbons, worn by officers and EM over the left upper pocket.
- (g) Insignia of PS (Border Guard) was the head of a wolf hound.

SECRET

SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

-7-

- (h) Marksmanship Badge. This was worn over the left pocket only by EM. There were two classes of marksmanship, [] not describe which badge was for the first class and which was for the second.
- (i) Odznak Vzorneho Vojaka (Emblem of a Model Soldier). This was worn above the right pocket only by EM. An EM could receive two or more of these emblems, one for good driving, one for model discipline, one for marksmanship, etc.

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- Enclosure A : New cap to be worn by PS only .
- A1: New star to be worn by Army officers and PS.
- B : SNB Uniform.
- C : PS Uniforms and Decorations.
- D : Shovel, Canteen, and Ammunition pouches.

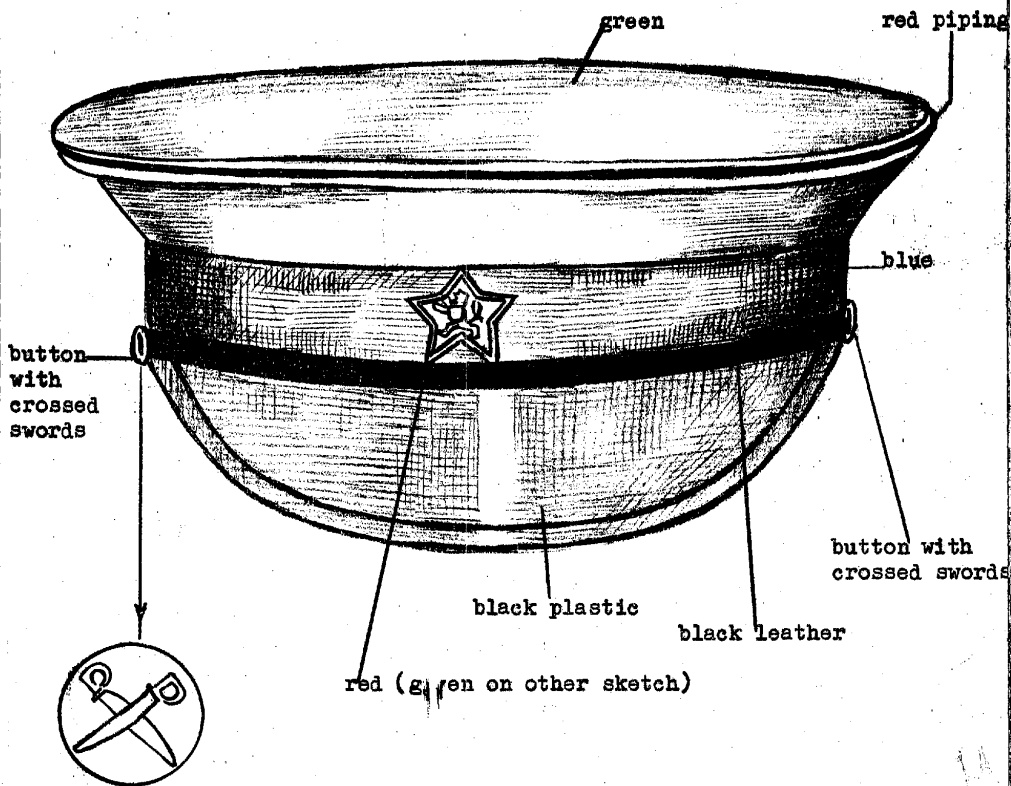
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SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION

Enclosure A

New PS Cap

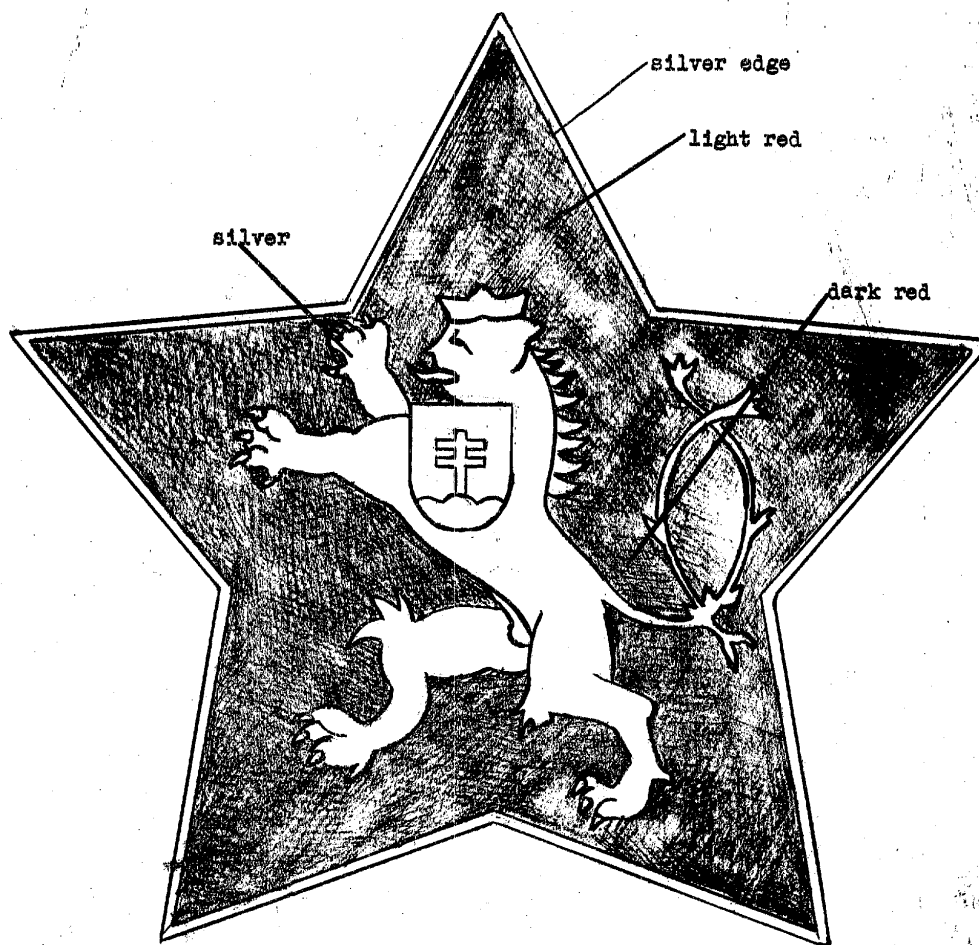


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Enclosure A1

New Emblem for Czech Army and PS Caps

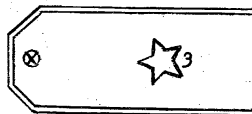
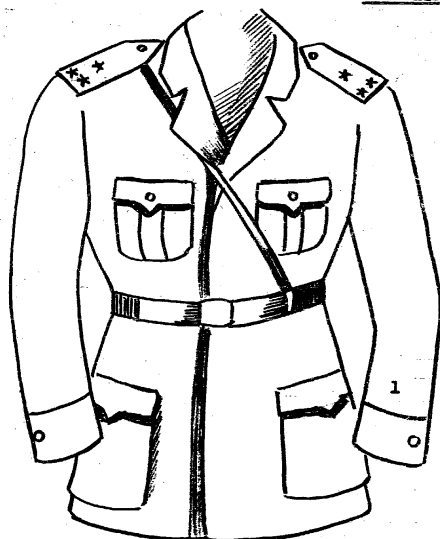


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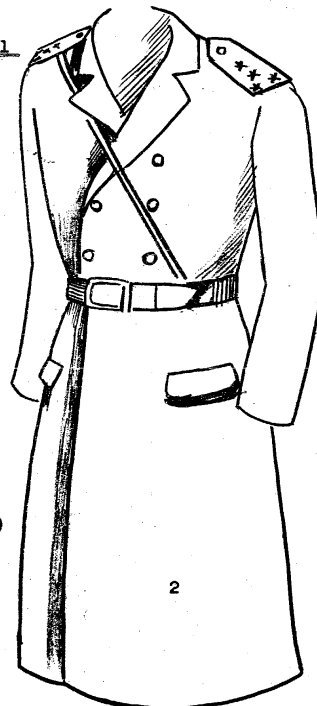
Enclosure B

SNB Uniforms as Issued after 1 January 1951



Legend

1. Blouse of Staff Patrolman
(Statni Strazmister)
2. Overcoat of Chief Patrolman
(Vrchin Strazmister)
3. Shoulderboard of Junior
Patrolman (Mladsi Strazmister)
4. Button design



SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION

SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION

Enclosure C

PS Uniform & Decorations

Legend

1. Wolfhound insignia
 2. Partisans insignia
 3. Tyrs Physical Ability emblem
 4. Fucik Political emblem
 5. Medal of 25 February 1948
 6. Ribbons
 7. Military Academy emblem
 8. Two classes of marksmanship badges
 9. Emblem of a model soldier
-
- A. PS Captain's Dress uniform
 - B. PS officer trousers (green stripe along seam)
 - C. PS officer overcoat; front view
 - D. PS officer overcoat; rear view
 - E. Cap with emblem (cap was of khaki cloth, without piping)
 - F. Emblem

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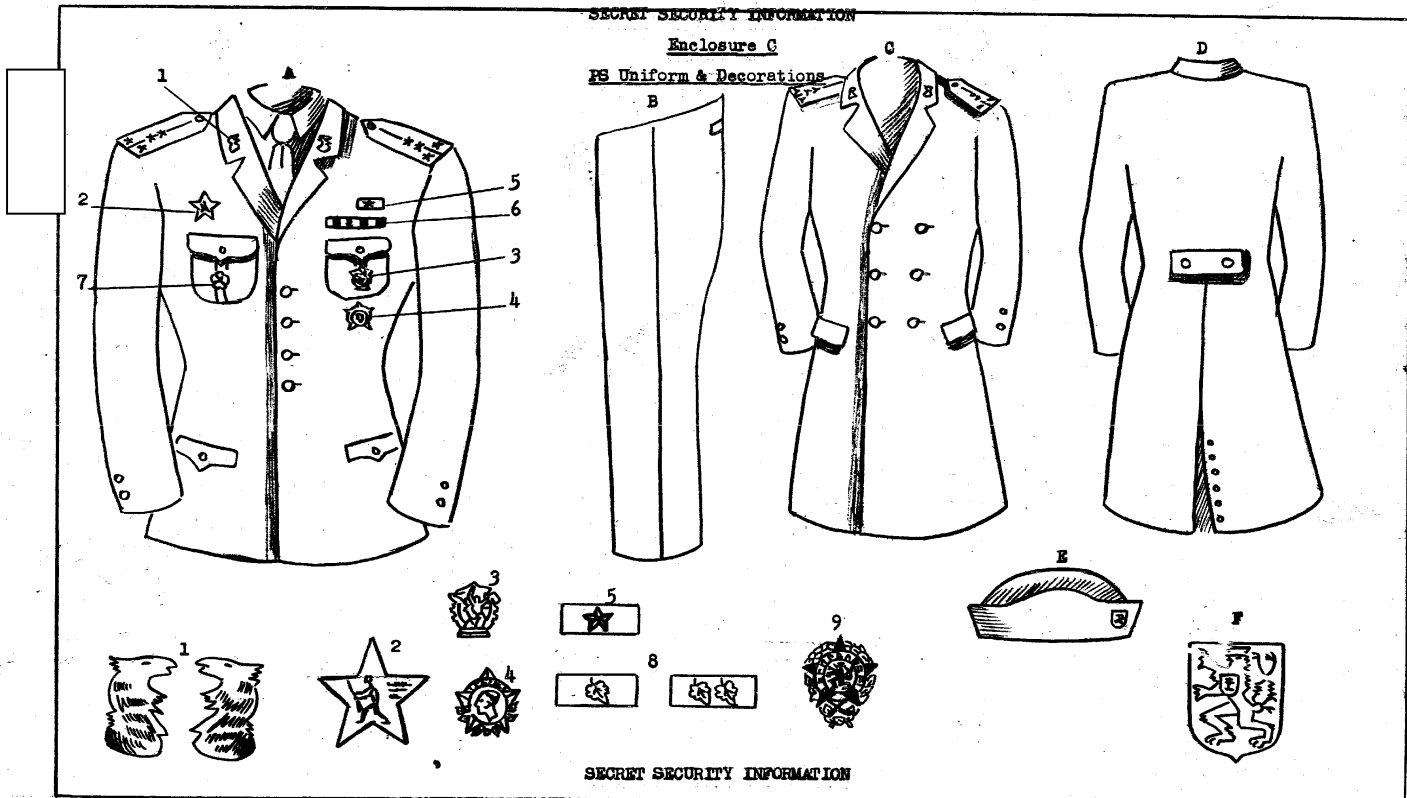
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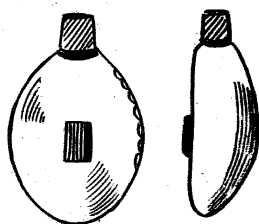
Enclosure C

FS Uniform & Decorations

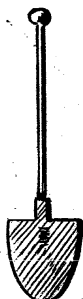


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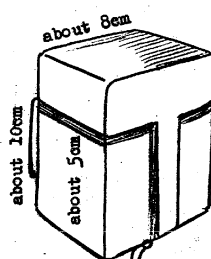
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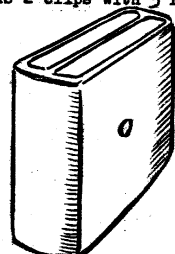
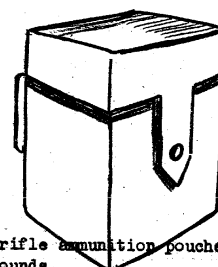
Canteen
Capacity: 1 liter



Entrenching Shovel



Closed views of 2 types of rifle ammunition pouches,
each holds 2 clips with 5 rounds.



Open view

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